

GROUP NAME GROUP

Welcome to the *YOUR* **GROUP NAME OF AA**. My name is _____ and I am an alcoholic. We're glad you're here! Please help me open this meeting with the serenity prayer.

Are there any non-AA announcements?
Are there any AA-related announcements?

This is an Open Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous. An excerpt from a 1942 letter from Bill Wilson states, "Our chief responsibility to the newcomer is an adequate presentation of the program," so the purpose of this meeting is to try to present this with our collective experience with the directions of our Big Book.

The A.A. Preamble

Alcoholics Anonymous is a fellowship of people who share their experience, strength and hope with each other that they may solve their common problem and help others to recover from alcoholism. The only requirement for membership is a desire to stop drinking. There are no dues or fees for A.A. membership; we are self-supporting through our own contributions. A.A. is not allied with any sect, denomination, politics, organization or institution; does not wish to engage in any controversy, neither endorses nor opposes any causes. Our primary purpose is to stay sober and help other alcoholics to achieve sobriety.

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We are gathered here because we are faced with the fact that we are powerless over alcohol and unable to do anything about it without the help of a Power greater than ourselves. We feel that each person's religious views, if any, are his own affair. The simple purpose of the program of Alcoholics Anonymous is to show what may be done to enlist the aid of a Power greater than us regardless of what your individual conception of that Power may be.

In order to form a habit of depending upon and referring all we do to that Power, we must at first apply ourselves with

some diligence. By often repeating these acts, they become habitual and the help rendered becomes natural to us. We can recover.

We meet on **DAY OF THE WEEK** from **TIME** to **TIME**. our business meetings are held on the first Sunday of each month at 5:00 p.m. All group members are encouraged to attend. If you are interested in joining this group, please see a group member after the meeting. Will all group members please raise your hands? If you need a sponsor, please see one of us after the meeting.

In observance of the 7th Tradition which states, "Every AA group ought to be fully self-supporting, declining outside contributions," we will be passing a basket.

In many ways our group is not typical. Unlike most meetings, we encourage "cross-talk," repeat sharing, and lively back and forth conversation. We aim for a close, detailed reading of the Big Book, practical application of AA's Twelve Steps of recovery, and strengthened conscious contact with a Power greater than ourselves. If you are a newcomer, we welcome sharing in the form of questions, or simply saying, "I don't understand." Sometimes these simple, honest declarations lead to the best discussions!

The format of this meeting is as follows: approximately a paragraph or two of the Big Book is read, beginning where we left off the prior week. The person reading then has the opportunity to either share on what they read or pass. At that time, others are invited to share their experience with the reading. In order to keep the meeting focused we ask that you only share on what was read. When all are done sharing, we will continue reading by passing to the next person. Tonight we will start on page ____ at the paragraph beginning with _____.

May we have a volunteer to begin reading?